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100
FINE
PEONIES



DOUBLE
ENGLISH
VIOLETS

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Walton E. Milliman
Rockford, Michigan

NUMBER 2

TO OUR FRIENDS OLD AND NEW

If ever a garden offers a refuge, or a brief moment of relaxation from the world of chaos, confusion and conflict, that season is here and now.

The garden is our escape, not from, but into reality!

The gardener's philosophy of "plowshares" and "pruning hooks" is fundamentally correct and while it cannot redeem the world it can modestly point the way and direct our thinking along well worn and friendly paths.

If this protest be feeble, if the challenge be mild, charge it against human limitations but never against hopes and convictions!

Come let us garden together!

Here are some of nature's masterpieces:—

"DOUBLE ENGLISH VIOLETS RESCUED FROM OBLIVION"

We take a good deal of pleasure in calling your attention to one of the favorite old perennials that disappeared from home gardens about thirty years ago. Up to that time the gardens of our grandmothers contained generous sized beds of the extremely fragrant and intensely double English Violet. But something happened! The plants were doubtless discarded for something new and different. Plant growers and nurserymen ceased to propagate them; in a short time they were gone but not entirely forgotten.

Fifteen years ago we were fortunate in obtaining a mere handful of plants. Two years later we were almost startled by the results. The plants were hardy and strong growers. They withstood our rigorous Michigan winters beautifully. Due to our sentimental interest in the plants and because the blooms were intensely double and deliciously fragrant, we made it our aim to build up the stock as rapidly as possible.

When we decided to offer Double English Violet plants to our Peony customers the response was instantaneous. More than 200 dozens were shipped out the first year. Since then shipments have gone to every state, to Canada, Hawaii and Canal Zone.

Cultural directions are few and simple; Plant in partial shade if possible; use fertilizer sparingly and do not permit the plants to dry out during the drought season of mid-summer.

Double English Violets may be planted during the spring or fall with excellent results. We grow them in both shady and sunny locations. We recommend them for the troublesome shady places in the garden and on the north side of buildings where most perennials refuse to thrive.

We ship by mail, carefully packed, at \$1.50 per dozen. Larger quantities by prepaid express at \$10.00 per 100.

JACK IN THE PULPIT

The Jack-in-the-pulpit is not only one of the best known but one of the most popular wild flowers. It is distinctive in its habit of growth; it has an unusual blossom consisting of a spathe, hood and spadix and the large cluster of fruit or berries takes on a brilliant red in late summer.

Usually the plant grows to a height of about two feet, but there is frequently a variation of from one to three feet. The Jack-in-the-pulpit requires shade and moisture. It is perennial and hardy.

The spadix or spike appears under the hood of pale green, striped with purplish-brown.

Plants are produced from corms which are thick bulb-like fleshy stems covered with a thin membrane or scale leaves.

These are shipped carefully packed and prepaid at three for \$1.00.

A NEW VELVETY WHITE VIOLET WITH LONG STEMS

We are now offering for the first time a velvety white Violet of unusual merit.

The petals are of heavy texture with a velvety sheen. The stems are long and stiff, long enough to carry the blooms well above the foliage. And the plant is perfectly hardy here in Western Michigan, a veritable testing ground for hardiness!

This Violet is only mildly fragrant and the bloom is a distinct single.

In a collection of a dozen plants there is a possibility that one or two will show a slight trace of blue at the base of the petals but the others will be true whites. Additional plants will be included with each order to make up for the approximate ten percent variation in color.

Small plants, prepaid, at \$1.50 per dozen. These cannot be offered in lots of 100 plants until fall 1941.

PACIFIC HYBRID STRAIN OF CHOICE DELPHINIUMS

During recent years the Pacific Hybrid strain of Delphiniums has forged into prominence. The plants are known for their long flower spikes which are closely packed with individual flowers from two to three inches across. The stems are strong and wiry and the plants are resistant to mildew.

These plants, which we group by color, are strong, well rooted seedlings.

DELPHINIUMS BY COLOR

LIGHT BLUE, per doz. ----- 1.00
DARK BLUE, per doz. ----- 1.00
LAVENDAR and PASTEL,
per doz. ----- 1.00

GIANT WHITE, per doz. ---- 1.00
MIXED SHADES, per doz. --- 1.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

12 each of the above,
a \$5.00 value ----- \$4.00
6 each of the above ----- 2.00

FOR PERMANENCE PLANT PEONIES

100 Fine Varieties

In our attempt to induce those who receive our list, to place their peony orders with us, we offer a few important considerations.

Our plants and root divisions are free from disease. The divisions, generous in size, with 3 to 5 eyes, are taken from sturdy three year old plants. Transportation is fully prepaid, and we offer only plants that have bloomed in our fields.

Our prices may not be the lowest in the U.S.A. but we have no aversion to careful comparisons! In fact we hope our prospective purchasers will take note of the very modest prices.

TO SUCCEED WITH PEONIES

When you receive your shipment of root divisions you will find that they are ready for planting. No trimming or pruning is necessary.

A Peony division is nothing more nor less than a well developed root system with from three to five eyes or buds on the crown. When planting it is important to remember that the division should be placed in the ground so that the eyes are covered by an inch and a half or two inches of soil. Do not make the mistake of planting too deep. Two inches is deep enough.

If the plants need fertilizer use a small amount of bone meal around each plant in the fall of the year.

At blooming time when the buds become soft and fluffy, cut some of them and let them open in the house. Many varieties will keep for ten days if cut when the buds are opening.

—ADOLPHE ROUSSEAU.	
Dark, lustrous red shaded maroon showing yellow stamens.	.50
—ALBERT CROUSSE.	
Salmon pink. Late.	.50
—ALSACE - LORRAINE.	
White tinted cream and buff	.50
—ASA GRAY.	
Pale lilac dotted	.60
—AUGUSTE DESSERT.	
Pink. Petals edged with a silvery border.	1.25
—AVALANCHE.	
Cream white.	.40
—BARONESS SCHROEDER.	
Flesh white	.50
—BRAND'S MAGNIFICENT.	
Deep red	.75
—CARDINAL.	
Rich red	2.00
—CLAIRE DUBOIS.	
Satin pink. Late.	.50
—CHERRY HILL.	
Deep garnet. Very early and blooms in clusters	.50

—DUCHESS DE NEMOURS.	
White	.35
—EDULIS SUPERBA.	
Early. Dark pink	.35
—ELIZABETH B. BROWN-ING.	
Pure white	.60
—ELWOOD PLEAS.	
Pale rose pink	.50
—ETTA.	
Deep shell pink	.50
—EUGENIE VERDIER.	
Rose pink	.50
—FELIX CROUSSE.	
Brilliant crimson	.35
—FESTIVA MAXIMA.	
White flecked red	.35
—FRANCES WILLARD.	
Large white. Few petals edged with red	.50
—GALATHEE.	
Flesh white. Late	1.00
—GEORGIANA SHAYLOR.	
Light rose pink	.75
—GOLDEN DAWN.	
Yellow center	2.00
—GRANDIFLORA.	
Late. Pale pink	.50
—JAMES KELWAY.	
Rose white	.50
—JUBILEE.	
Large white. Lacy petals	.50
—JUDGE BERRY.	
Delicate pink. Early	.75
—KARL ROSENFELD.	
Dark crimson	.50
—LADY ALEXANDER DUFF	
Pale blush pink. Often six blooms on one stem	.50
—LA FRANCE.	
Late violet rose	.75
—LA LORRAINE.	
Cream white	.75
—LA TULIPE.	
Lilac white	.40
—LE CYGNE.	
Milk white	2.00
—LILLIAN GUMM.	
Late rose pink	.75
—LONGFELLOW.	
Cherry red	.75
—LUETTA PFEIFER.	
Hydrangea pink	.75
—MARGUERITE GERARD.	
Flesh pink	.50
—MARIE JACQUIN.	
Semi double pink. Water lily type	.50
—MARCONI.	
Deep pink. High crown	2.00
—MARTHA BULLOCK.	
Very large rose pink. A spectacular variety	.75
—MARY BRAND.	
Deep red. Blooms freely in clusters	.50
—MARY WOODBURY SHAYLOR.	
Clear pink	.75
—MILTON HILL.	
Shell pink	.75
—MME. DE VATRY.	
Pink. Early	.35
—MME. EMILE GALLE.	
Rose pink	.50
—MME. EMILE LEMOINE.	
White	.50
—MME. JULES DESSERT.	
Cream white	.60
—MONS. JULES ELIE.	
Deep pink. Our most popular pink	.50
—MONS. MARTIN CAHUZAC.	
Dark garnet. The black peony	.75
—MRS. C. S. MINOT.	
Flesh pink with coppery tints	2.00
—MRS. EDWARD HARDING	
White with golden stamens	1.00
—MYRTLE GENTRY.	
Rosy white, suffused with tints of flesh and salmon.	
One of the finest	1.50
—OCTAVIE DEMAY.	
Pink	.40
—PHILLIPPE RIVOIRE.	
Deep Red. The highest rated red	1.00
—PHILOMELE.	
Old rose. Collar of narrow buff petals. Some crimson. Tri-color effect. Small flowers	.35
—PHYLLIS KELWAY.	
Rose pink. Unusual form and beauty	1.00
—PRESIDENT TAFT.	
Delicate pink. A perennial favorite	.50
—PRESIDENT WILSON.	
Bright rose pink with cupped center	2.00
—PRIMEVERE.	
Nearest yellow. One of the most striking peonies	.50
—RICHARD CARVEL.	
Brilliant crimson	.75
—ROSA BONHEUR.	
Old rose pink	.75
—SARAH BERNHARDT.	
Deep pink	.50
—SOLANGE.	
Suffusion of buff and pale salmon pink. A real masterpiece	.60
—SOUV. DE LOUIS BIGOT.	
Bengal rose. A rare color in peonies	.75
—SUZETTE.	
Rose pink	.75
—THERESE.	
Immense shell pink. World's best pink	.50
—THOMAS C. THURLOW.	
Salmon flesh. Rare and beautiful variety	2.00
—TOURANGELLE.	
Apple blossom pink	.60
—UMBELLATA ROSEA.	
Early pink	.30
—VENUS.	
Shell pink	.30
—WALTER FAXON.	
Salmon rose	1.00
—WALTER KNIGHT.	
White with carmine edging on petals. Yellow stamens	1.00

EVER SEE A TREE PEONY?

Our stock of tree Peonies is grown from root divisions,- not from cuttings or grafts grown in the greenhouse. Strong, sturdy, reliable. You may order and plant these with assured results. By express, prepaid!

Tree peonies differ from the usual type of peonies in that they bloom earlier than the others and have a woody stem. Our offering in tree peonies is limited to one variety known as Banski. It is semi-double, lilac rose and free flowering. Three year clump at \$3.00. Two year clump at \$2.00. Root division, large enough for planting, \$1.00. The larger plants will bloom sooner than root divisions. Height of tree peonies at maturity is between three and four feet.

"A seed is just
As huge a world
As any ball
The sun has hurled."

FINE JAPANESE PEONIES

We believe the interest in Japanese Peonies is increasing each year and we urge you to add at least a few to your peony order.

—AMA-NO-SODE.	
Light rose pink	2.00
—CATHEDRAL.	
Rose pink and pale pink center	.50
—CURRANT JAP.	
Currant red	2.00
—EVA.	
Light lilac crimson	1.00
—FUYAJO.	
Velvet mahogany	.75
—HARI-AL-NIN.	
Maroon	3.00
—ISANI GIDUI.	
The best white Japanese peony	3.00
—MIKADO.	
One of the best known and finest Jap. Dark crimson with yellow buff center	.50
—NIPPON BEAUTY.	
Red	3.00
—ONAHAMA.	
Dark red	2.00
—OPHR.	
Apple blossom pink	1.00
—RASHOUMAN.	
Crimson	1.00
—SNOW WHEEL.	
White with golden buff	.50
—SOME GANOKA.	
Dark crimson and yellow	.75
—TAMATE — BOKU.	
Dark pink. Very large blooms	6.00

SINGLE PEONIES HAVE AN APPEAL OF THEIR OWN

The flowers consist of five or more true petals arranged around a center made up of stamens and pollen-bearing anthers. They are not in competition with double peonies or Japs for a place in your garden. They possess distinctive merit and should not be overlooked.

—DR. POWERS.	
Shell pink	1.00
—ELISA.	
Dark pink	1.00
—K-49.	
Deep pink	2.00
—KELWAY'S WILD ROSE.	
Carmine dots	1.00
—MRS. V. W. KRAUSE.	
Coral pink	3.00
—NICK SHAYLOR.	
Deep red	2.00
—NORMAN THOMAS.	
Large red	1.00
—PRESIDENT LINCOLN.	
Red	5.00
—PRIDE OF LANGFORD.	
Pale rose pink	1.00
—HELEN KNIGHT.	
White	.50

All Planting Material in This List is
Shipped Prepaid

—Address—

WALTON E. MILLIMAN
ROCKFORD, MICH.

WHEN OLD PLANTS REFUSE TO BLOOM

Here is a question we frequently hear:-

"I have a peony in my garden that has not had a bloom on it in seven years. What is the matter with it?"

Our reply usually is as follows:-

"There are three probable causes why peonies fail to bloom.

1. "Peonies planted in the spring usually refuse to blossom. Always plant peonies in the fall.

2 "If you transplant peonies be sure to divide the clump. Planting an entire clump without dividing the roots is very much the same as planting an entire ear of corn in a hill instead of only a few kernels. If a peony requires transplanting or moving divide the root system in about three pieces. Otherwise it may fail to blossom.

3 "Deep planting of roots is a common mistake. Plant the root divisions so the eyes or buds are an inch and a half below the surface of the ground. A depth of two inches is not too much, but a depth of four inches is way out of the question."

TWO OLD CLASSICS!

There should be room for these in every garden. Strong growers. Low in price. Highly recommended.

—OFFICINALIS RUBRA.

The old fashioned red that usually blooms on Decoration day. The best known peony. .40

—GRANDMOTHER'S ROSE

PINEY. Dark rose. Late bloomer. One of the most fragrant. Small flowers ---- .35

TULIP BULBS**TOP SIZE — PER 100**

—PRIDE OF HARLEM	
Red	4.50
—INGLEScombe YELLOW	
Yellow	4.50
—CLARA BUTT	
Pink	4.50
—REV. EUBANK	
Lavender	4.50
—ZWANNENBURG	
White	6.00
—LOUIS XIV	
Breeder	6.00
—FANTASY	
Parrot	5.50
—CROCUS	
Yellow, purple, white, striped and mixed	2.50

A BRIEF BUT VARIED LIST OF MUCH INTEREST

—AZALEA MUM.	
A huge mass of early pink blooms. 5 plants	\$1.00
—BLEEDING HEARTS.	
An old time favorite and still highly attractive. 3 plants	1.00
—CHINESE ELM TREES.	
Very rapid growers. About 1 1/2 ft. 8 baby elms	1.00
—DIANTHUS ROSE CUSHION	
A fine plant for a border. Each	.20
—DOUBLE ENGLISH VIOLETS	
See the description on page 1. Dozen	1.50
—JAPANESE IRIS.	
Six mature plants in a wealth of color, prepaid	1.00
—ORIENTAL POPPY.	
Large scarlet. Six plants for	1.00
—PHLOX, BRIDESMAID.	
White with pink eye. .20 per plant or 7 for	1.00
—SIBERIAN IRIS.	
Eight plants of blooming size prepaid	1.00
—TALL BEARDED IRIS.	
Ten different varieties in assortments of 100 for	2.00
—WHITE VIOLET.	
Long stems. See description on first page. Dozen	1.50
—JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT.	
A popular wild flower. Bulbs or corms, 3 for	1.00

THE OLD FASHIONED RED PEONY WENT WEST WITH THE PIONEERS IN COVERED WAGONS

The story of the winning of the west, of the men and women who carved out their homes in the timber land, built the first rude bridges and subdued the corn land, is not complete to flower lovers unless we know something of the part that the old fashioned "red piney" played during the migration years when the pioneers were establishing their homes in the land of hope and opportunity.

On the overland trek they travelled light. Their equipment was reduced to the bare necessities,—the covered wagon, the ox-team, provisions, and ammunition. The only emblem of hope and courage except the gleam in the eyes of those who faced the west, nestled securely in a corner of the wagon along with the axe, the candle mold and the copper kettle. It was a "toe" from the old red piney that grew at the south corner of the old homestead in Jersey or York State.

It was more than a tie to the home they were leaving, because the red piney stood as an emblem,—a challenge that some day they would succeed in pulling the stumps and subduing the prairie. And daily, as they pressed on, following new and twisting trails, fording streams, fighting hardships and obstacles, the pieces of root were snug and safe in their meager cargo of bare necessities.

When they reached their goal and the spot had been selected for the home, the very first spade full of earth was lifted to plant the piney. Symbolically, at that moment the family had sunk its roots into the soil. The business of homemaking in a new land had started.

Years before their sons were old enough to enlist in the Civil War the red piney had been divided repeatedly. Time after time a spade had been forced down through the crown of the plant in order that neighbors and friends might dedicate a small spot in their own door yard to the piney that had been brought from back east. And so it went. Wagon trains carried the red piney into new areas. Wherever the frontier was pushed back a few miles, along it went, and each spring as soon as the snow melted it continued to send up new shoots followed of course by generous blooms.

For one hundred years and more, grandmothers by the tens of thousands have given "toes" from the old fashioned peony to sons and daughters, friends and neighbors in all states,—in city, town and on the farms. It is still widely grown throughout the country. Comparatively few plants have been sold. They have been given away by kindly and stalwart souls who somehow believe that man shall not live by bread alone. It is perfectly fitting that this flower which is so closely bound with the memories and sentiment of our people should be held in such high favor that it amounts to almost a tradition among flower lovers.

WALTON E. MILLIMAN
ROCKFORD, MICHIGAN